



## Office of the Mayor

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### For Immediate Release

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## Waukesha Strong Community Tile Project

The City of Waukesha is currently preparing for two memorials that will help honor and remember all those impacted by the Waukesha Christmas Parade Tragedy in 2021. The Main Street Memorial, a marker on Main Street near where the tragedy occurred, will be dedicated on Nov. 21, 2023 at 4:39pm. This will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the parade tragedy. The Parade Memorial at Grede Park, a larger memorial which includes more space for reflection and gathering is planned to be dedicated on Nov. 21, 2024, the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the tragedy. More information on the memorials is available at [waukesha-wi.gov/paradememorial](https://waukesha-wi.gov/paradememorial).

As part of the City's Parade Memorial at Grede Park, it is planned to have a wall consisting of 6"x 6" clay tiles customized by community members. The City is encouraging everyone in the community to take the opportunity to participate in this community art project and create a tile.

The City will be holding three larger events where anyone is welcome to engrave a tile. The minimum donation for each tile is \$25 with any proceeds going to the Parade Memorial Fund.

### Community Tile Events:

- Nov. 21, 2023, following the Main Street Parade Memorial Dedication, an event will be held at the Clarke Hotel (314 W Main Street).
- March 9, 2023, a tile event will be held at the Waukesha Public Library (321 Wisconsin Ave.).
- Summer 2024, a community tile event will be held. The date will be released early next year.

In addition, groups wishing to hold their own tile engraving sessions may request a session with a minimum of 35 tiles purchased. The artist and volunteers will bring the tiles and all the supplies to the location of your choosing, in Waukesha. Any groups interested in scheduling a session should complete the online interest form found at [waukesha-wi.gov/communitytileproject](https://waukesha-wi.gov/communitytileproject).

To better understand the tile process and its importance to the community, members of the media are invited to attend a tile session this Wed., August 23 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Waukesha City Hall in the Employee Training Room (1<sup>st</sup> floor). The Waukesha Chamber of Commerce will be engraving tiles for the Memorial.

\*Pictured are a few of the tiles that have already been engraved by groups. The tiles will receive a blue glaze and go through the firing process before they are complete.



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